

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

**Date of Posting:** May 28, 2014

Travis County  
502 E. Highland Mall Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 78752  
512-854-3460

**On or after June 9, 2014**, Travis County will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) San Antonio Field Office for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Funds under Title I of Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

**PROJECT TITLE:** Program Year 2013 Travis County CDBG Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation Program

**PURPOSE:** To fund minor home repair services for low and moderate income homeowners in order to move homes towards Housing Quality Standards, by seeking to improve the energy efficiency, physical living conditions, and safety in owner-occupied homes.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project will fund minor home repair services for low and moderate income homeowners in the unincorporated areas of Travis County and the Village of Webberville, to move homes towards Housing Quality Standards. The program seeks to improve the energy efficiency, physical living conditions, and safety in owner-occupied homes. A 0% interest, forgivable 5-year loan up to \$24,999 with no required annual or monthly payments is available. Examples of potential improvements include, but are not limited to: foundation repair, roofing, flooring, electrical, plumbing, accessibility modifications, connection of houses to long-term viable sources of water (not part of a stand-alone infrastructure project), weatherization, noise attenuation, septic tank repairs and installation, and related engineering or design for improvements.

**LOCATION:** Specific homes will be located in the unincorporated areas of Travis County and the Village of Webberville and will be selected as qualified residents apply.

**ESTIMATED COST:** This project is fully funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from several grant years. The breakdown in funding by year is as follows:

Grant Number	Grant Year	Dollar Amount
B-10-UC-48-0503	Program Year 2010	\$206,844.70
B-11-UC-48-0503	Program Year 2011	\$33,885.40
B-12-UC-48-0503	Program Year 2012	\$74,841.90
B-13-UC-48-0503	Program Year 2013	\$134,428
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$450,000</b>

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** The proposed activities are categorically excluded from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58.

Travis County has chosen to tier the environmental review of the CDBG Home Rehabilitation program. According to 24 CFR Part 58, a responsible entity may tier its environmental review and assessments to eliminate the repetitive discussions of the same issues at subsequent levels of review. Tiering is appropriate

when there is a requirement to evaluate a policy or proposal early in the stages of development or when a site specific analysis of mitigation is not currently feasible and a more narrow or focused analysis is better done at a later date. Due to the nature of the CDBG Home Rehabilitation program, certain aspects of the environmental review can be completed collectively for all the sites or are not applicable, while the remaining areas of environmental review will need to be evaluated at a site-specific level based on their location and site specific conditions. Site specific reviews will contain information on Historic Properties, Floodplain Management, Airport Hazards, and Contamination and Toxic Substances.

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is maintained on file at the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Office, CDBG Office at 502 E. Highland Mall Blvd, Austin, TX, 78752 and may be examined or copied weekdays (8 am to 5 pm).

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Travis County HHS/VS, CDBG Office, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX, 78767. All comments received by Friday, June 6, 2014, will be considered by Travis County prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION AND RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Travis County certifies to HUD that Samuel T. Biscoe in his capacity as County Judge consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Travis County to use HUD program funds.

### **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and Travis County's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of Travis County; (b) Travis County has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at H.F. Garcia Federal Building/U.S. Courthouse, 615 E. Houston St., Suite 347, San Antonio, TX 78205. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Samuel T. Biscoe  
Travis County Judge/Certifying Officer